

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9, 11-15, 17, 19, 21-30, 34, 36, 38-44, 49-62, and 75-82 are pending. Claims 1-3, 6, 9, 15, 23-25, and 27-30 have been amended. Claims 4, 5, 7, 14, 17, 26, 36, 39-42, 44, 49, and 54-62 are original. Claims 11-13, 19, 21, 22, 34, 38, 43, 50-53, and 75-77 have been previously presented. Claims 78-82 are new. Claims 8, 10, 16, 18, 20, 31-33, 35, 37, 45-48, and 63-74 have been canceled. No new matter has been introduced by the amendment.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite “where at least one of the first, second, and third plug-fluids forms an interface with the first carrier fluid after the plug-fluids contact the first carrier-fluid, where the interface has a capillary number sufficient to allow a plurality of plugs to form in the first channel in the first carrier-fluid, at least one of the plugs comprising the first, second and third plug-fluids”. Claim 2 has been amended to recite “where at least one of the fourth, fifth and sixth plug-fluids forms an interface with the second carrier fluid after the plug-fluids contact the second carrier-fluid, where the interface has a capillary number sufficient to allow a plurality of plugs to form in the second channel in the second carrier-fluid, at least one of the plugs comprising the fourth, fifth and sixth plug-fluids”.

New claims 78 and 79 recite “the capillary number is less than about 10” and “the capillary number is less than about 0.2”, respectively. New independent claim 80 recites introducing into a first inlet in fluid communication with the first channel a first plug-fluid comprising a precipitant; and a second plug-fluid comprising a crystallization target. New independent claim 82 recites introducing into a first inlet in fluid communication with the first channel a first plug-fluid comprising a first reagent; and a second plug-fluid comprising a second reagent.

Support for amended claims 1 and 2 and for new claim 78-82 can be found in Applicants’ specification, for example, in page 29, lines 10-29; page 28, lines 18-21; and in page 27, lines 18-21.

Based on the above amendments and remarks, and the remarks in the September 19, 2008 Request for Continued Examination, the Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. The examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned agent at 312-321-7738 to expedite allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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